

Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Division (1145) CEPOA-RD Post Office Box 6898 Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506-0898

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:

14 June 2007

EXPIRATION DATE:

13 July 2007

REFERENCE NUMBER:

POA-1979-291-00

WATERWAY:

Beaufort Sea

## \*\*\*PUBLIC NOTICE REVISION\*\*\*

On 8 June 2007, the Alaska District Corps of Engineers published a Public Notice for Department of the Army (DA) permit number POA-1979-291-00, Beaufort Sea for a DA permit application from BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc., ten years of proposed maintenance dredging at the West Dock Causeway. The project site is located within Sections 11, 14, and 23, T. 12 N., R. 14 E., Umiat Meridian; USGS Quad Map Beechey Point B-3; Latitude 70.3870° N., Longitude -148.5157° W.; near Deadhorse, Alaska.

The public notice lacked the following information (see italicized information below) in the "ENDANGERED SPECIES:" Section.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The project area is within the known or historic range of the Bowhead Whale.

Preliminarily, the described activity will have no effect\* on the Bowhead Whale, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work. (\* This effects determination is based on information the applicant has provided to the Corps since the original PN was issued. Specifically, that screed dredging will account for the majority of the cubic yardage of material dredged therefore eliminating the need for an off-shore dredge disposal site and the resulting potential impacts to Bowhead Whales. If the Corps later determines that there are potential affects to Bowhead Whales the Corps will request the NMFS determine if a Section 7 ESA Consultation is warranted.

All other information contained in the previous notice remains the same. Please bring this announcement to the attention of anyone you know who is or may be interested. Please contact Keith Gordon at (907) 753-2712, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, or by email at keith.q.gordon@poa02.usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this notice.